

# BIOGRAPHY

## HENRY M. OGRODZINSKI

HENRY M. OGRODZINSKI assumed the leadership of the National Association of State Aviation Officials and the non-profit NASAO Center for Aviation Research and Education in 1996. NASAO represents the state government aviation agencies, serving the public interest, in all 50 states, Guam and Puerto Rico. He is the first person in the 74-year old association to hold the title, "*President and Chief Executive Officer*". Before undertaking his responsibilities at NASAO, which is headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland, in the metropolitan Washington, DC area, he held a number of other senior management positions in different sectors of the aviation community.

He began his career at the Delco Electronics Division of General Motors, which manufactured navigation and flight-management systems for commercial, military and space applications. He was responsible for all communications and training programs at the division's Milwaukee facilities.

He left Delco to become the Director of Policy and Planning for the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In this role, he was often asked to provide expert testimony before Congress on a wide variety of aviation issues. He also served as EAA Director of Corporate Communications (in this role he managed all public and media relations for the world's largest aviation event) and on the editorial board of EAA's five magazines. Henry played an integral part in the growth of EAA, its museum and its annual convention throughout the 1980's.

Based upon his aviation and government affairs experience, he was recruited by the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) in Washington, DC, to lead its communications programs. While with GAMA, he produced several publications and multi-media presentations demonstrating the importance of General Aviation. He also managed the activities of the industry-wide GAMA Public Affairs Committee. He became well known as a leading aviation advocate and spokesman for his work in focusing the media spotlight on the product liability crisis, which was devastating the industry.

The Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, a GAMA member, then asked him to move to its Savannah, Georgia headquarters to consolidate its worldwide public affairs, exhibitions, and advertising efforts. Henry bore the ultimate responsibility for planning and executing the highly successful domestic and international introductions of the G-IVSP and G-V business aircraft. He was Gulfstream's Vice President of Marketing and Communications and a Corporate Officer.

He left Gulfstream to become the first President and CEO of the then 20 year old United States Air and Trade Show in Dayton, Ohio. There, he rescued the troubled and financially beleaguered organization by producing the largest and most successful events in its history.

Henry is a veteran of the US Army and an honors graduate of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, with a BA in Journalism - Mass Communication. He is a member of many aviation organizations and the recipient of numerous military and civilian awards. Henry is often quoted by the news media as a perceptive observer of the aviation industry. He has also served on a number of government and industry panels, such as the US Aviation Security Advisory Committee Working Group on General Aviation (Co-Chairman), the Board of Nominations of the National Aviation Hall of Fame, a member of the Collier and Brewer trophy Selection Committees, a member of the National Aeronautic Association's Board of Directors and the 2004 President of the Aero Club of Washington.

**NOTE:** For a shorter introduction, you may simply use the *first* paragraph.

Henry's last name is pronounced: ˌo • ɡrəd • ʃɪn • ske

If you still find his last name too daunting simply, call him "Henry O" as he has been known by his friends in the aviation community for nearly 30 years.

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